

# METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MAPPING A SITE ON A WIDE AREA NETWORK

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 <sup>sub</sup> A method and system for organizing and displaying information about Internet  
Web pages on Web maps are disclosed. Web maps display a summary of the  
information that a Web page provides access to, in a format that facilitates a rapid  
assessment of what may be accessed through a Web site's home page, or through any  
Web page on the Web site. Preferably, Web maps are displayed on a Web page, or  
within a frame of a Web page, by an Internet browser application. A set of Web maps  
10 may be automatically generated by a search engine or directory in response to a user's  
search request. Alternatively, a user may request that a Web map be produced for a  
particular Web page of interest. The Web maps are preferably generated by a Web  
server, or by an application running in the background of a user's computer, so that the  
user may perform other tasks on the user's computer while the Web maps are being  
15 generated.

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